

Dear SIC Members and Supporters:

This issue of *SIC Clips & Quips* (Volume 4, Issue 1) is sent to you highlight some news which may be of interest to you as you prepare for the new school year ahead.

2011-12 State Budget Update – As you may already be aware, last Wednesday the General Assembly overrode all but one of Governor Haley's K-12 education funding vetoes:

- Veto 2 (\$1.4 million for High Schools That Work program). The House vote to override was 82-28; the Senate vote was 30-10.
- Veto 5 (\$12.4 million for new school buses). The House vote to override was 103-6; the Senate vote was 31-8.
- Veto 32 (\$56.1 million for Base Student Cost under the Education Finance Act). The House vote to override was 97-8; the Senate vote was 32-7. With this funding remaining in the budget, the projected base student cost for FY2011-12 is \$1,880. (Note: the BSC for FY2011-12 should be \$2,790 under the General Assembly's funding formula.)
- Veto 35 (\$20 million to ensure that no district loses funding through the transition to the new Index of Taxpaying Ability school funding formula). The House vote to override was 89-18; the Senate vote was 36-3.
- Veto 1 (\$169,487 for SAT improvement programs). This was the only education veto that was sustained. The House vote to override was 74-36; the Senate vote was 24-14, which did not meet the 2/3 vote required to override the veto.

On an additional budgetary note, the SC-SIC budget for 2011-12 was approved at \$227,302 (\$127,302 in Education Improvement Act funds, down 15 percent from 2010-11) and \$100,000 in funding provided through the University of South Carolina.

SC-SIC Member Network Reset for 2011-12 School Year – The online SC-SIC Member Network was reset on **July 1st** to enable local SICs to begin reporting their membership information for the 2011-12 school year. Those accessing the Network (whether logging on as a designated user or using the "read-only" function) will note that membership information for the past school year has been highlighted. While the statutory deadline for reporting SIC membership information is not until **November 15th**, designated Member Network users may begin entering their SIC's information immediately if the SIC has conducted spring elections and have the information ready to go. Account users will have to update their log-in and password information for the new school year. Directions for this are available on the SC-SIC Member Network site accessible through sic.sc.gov, or by contacting SC-SIC Public Information Director Claudia Wolverson by email at wolverto@mailbox.sc.edu. Also, if your school is a new or re-organized school not listed in the SC-SIC Member Network, email Ms. Wolverson to assist you in getting your SIC established in the database.

Have You Uploaded Your 2011 SIC Report to the Parents? – All SICs statewide have issued their annual *Reports to the Parents* by **April 30th** as required by South Carolina statute. In addition to producing hard copies of these *Reports* for the school community, SC-SIC asks all local Councils to post an electronic version of their *Reports* on their school websites. This year, SICs were asked to submit (by **June 1st**) electronic copies of their *Reports* directly to the SC-SIC office via a new online upload tool on the SC-SIC Member Network. SIC Chairs and principals are asked to check the Member Network to see if their *Reports* have been posted online. If not, they're asked to accomplish this as soon as possible. Have questions or need assistance? Contact Claudia Wolverson at wolverto@mailbox.sc.edu.

New SIC Handbooks To Be Distributed – The 2011-12 edition of the SIC Handbook, *The Basics*, has been shipped to all SIC District Contacts across the state. Does your SIC need a fresh supply of Handbooks? Contact your local SIC District Contact to arrange to receive yours!

SC Education Policy Fellowship Program Accepting New Applicants – The SC Education Policy Fellowship Program (SC-EPFP) is a 10-month professional development program for established and emerging leaders in education and related fields designed to work toward the implementation of sound education policy and practice in South Carolina. SC-EPFP, affiliated with Education Policy Fellowship

Program of the Institute for Educational Leadership in Washington, DC, is now accepting applicants for Fellows for the 2011-12 academic year. If you are interested in participating in this nationally-recognized program, or know someone who might be, you can find more about SC-EPFP – including application materials, tuition and travel costs and other info – online at sic.sc.gov/sceducationpolicyfellowshipprogram/. The deadline to apply is **August 9th**.

Remember, *SIC Clips & Quips* is sent to all SIC members and supporters who share their email addresses with us. Please feel free to print out and share this information with fellow SIC members who may not have received it. We are here to help you, so please contact us any time!

Tom

Tom F. Hudson

Associate Director

S.C. School Improvement Council

803-777-7658 -- www.sic.sc.gov

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